Topic: Scorecards

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Below are some thoughts about Scorecards, with suggestions for discussion at the end.

Purpose – Scorecards and Scoresheets

The purpose of Scorecards is to provide to all stakeholders, in an easily understandable format, information that is needed for adaptive, responsive, and transparent watershed management. They are not intended to help detailed planning or precisely guide interventions in the watershed. "Scorecard" refers to the cards used to collect information, Scorecards normally result in an easy to read "scoresheet"

Scorecards to be simple

Given that (1) the Santa Fe Watershed is relatively simple (practically no irrigation, to thermal or hydropower, no industries using or polluting the water, no substantial sub-watershed, and actually little water), and that (2) the Santa Fe River Commission has limited resources, Scorecards should be kept simple. Their preparation should not require extensive surveys or technological support.

Examples

Scorecards have been used productively in the U.S., India, Brazil, and numerous other places. Publicizing their results led to a substantial improvement of many services run by public agencies as well as by private or non-profit organizations.

The EPA has collected and organized a set of sample scorecards. See at http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-growth-scorecards
EPA examples of Municipal Scorecards are here: http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smart-growth-scorecards
EPA examples of Municipal Level Scorecards

The Vermont "smart growth" Scorecard surveys urban sprawl and most other quality of life aspects, it could be simplified for use in Santa Fe:

http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-02/documents/vtscorecardvtfonsprawl_0.pdf

The Colorado "smart growth" Scorecard is similar to the Vermont card but not identical. http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-02/documents/colorado scorecard.pdf

New Jersey Future has a set of scorecards organized by topics in clear attractive formats. This could provide interesting templates, but there is not much on water. http://www.njfuture.org/smart-growth-101/your-town/

EcoCity Cleveland focuses on neighborhoods.

http://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-02/documents/ecocitycleveland.pdf

There are many other Scorecards on the EPA website.

Suggestions for discussion at the Santa Fe River Commission
Should we design a simplified Scorecard for the Santa Fe watershed?
If so, who/when to do it? Perhaps through a public forum.
Are there already some forms of Scorecards used in Santa Fe City or County?